गया है। इस समय यह शुल्क 25% से 85% तक है।

(iv) इस्पात पर सीमा शुल्क 75–85% से घटाकर 50% कर दिया गया है।

(v) माउवेट योजना पूंजीगत माल उद्योग पर लागू कर दी गयी है।

Gas Cracker Project at Gandhar Complex

*279. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited has performed the unique feat of cutting down the project cost of its third integrated gas-cracker and downstream units at Gandhar Complex; and

(b) if so, what was the original estimated cost of the project, how far it has been slashed and by what means it has been possible?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of India accorded investment approval to the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) for the Gandhar Complex in March, 1992. The approved cost of the project consisting of C2/C3 separation facilities cracker and various downstream units, was Rs. 3485 crores.

In the light of subsequent developments such as changes in custom duties, difficulties in sourcing technologies for certain downstream units, reduction in internal resources, non-availability of gas for power generation etc., IPCL has re-examined the strategy for implementation of the Gandhar complex. The revised strategy contemplates setting up of integrated C2/C3 and LPG recovery unit and certain downstream projects and utilities as joint ventures resulting in reduction of IPCL's investment; phased implementation of the project, and reorganising the procurement activities to take advantage of reduction in custom duties and interest rates.

The above measures are likely to result in reduction in the IPCL's investment by about Rs. 585 crores.

Availing of Privileges by Government Officials

*280. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "High-flying elite find their wings clipped" appearing in the Statesman dated 16th February, 1994;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to officials availing of special privileges; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure that high officials behave with dignity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In the context of Air India's Companion Free Scheme it has been clarified that since the expenditure on travel of a Government servant proceeding abroad on official work is borne by the Government, the benefit of the Complimentary Companion Ticket provided by the Air India would accrue to the Government and not to the individual performing the journey. Necessary provisions already exist in CCS (Conduct) Rules on the question of acceptance of gift by a Government servant or any member of his family or any other person acting on his behalf. The rules also provide that a Government servant shall at all times do nothing which is unbecoming of a Government servant.